(b) to (e) In the Budget speech 2005, the Government announced that no scheme shall be introduced which gives undeserved relief or amnesty. In the Budget Speech, the Government also announced two anti-tax evasion measures *i.e.*, (i) banking Cash Transaction Tax and (ii) Reporting by banks of all deposits which are exempt from TDS on interest. It has also been proposed in the Budget Speech that the results of these measures would be observed before introducing any further measures for unearthing black money.

The recommendations of the Committee have to be viewed in the light of the above policy Statement.

Tax Information Network (TIN)

4231. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI R.S. GAVAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved setting up of the Phase-II of Tax Information Network (TIN) at a cost of Rs. 100 crores;

(b) when will the TIN become operational; and

(c) what are the salient features of this scheme and whether it will enable paperless filing of returns through the internet?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Phase-I of TIN has become operational. Phase-II will begin from 01.07.2005.

(c) Phase-I consists of facilities for 'On Line Tax Accounting System' and electronic filing of TDS returns. Phase-II consists of facilities for dematerialisation of TDS certificates and electronic filing of Annual Information Returns. Dematerialisation of TDS certificates will enable paperless filing of returns on internet.

Liberalisation of customs clearance procedures for exporters

4232. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have liberalized the customs clearance procedures for exporters of textiles and garments during the post-quota regime;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of other incentives Government propose to give to garment industry to boost their exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government have taken no specific measures to liberalize the customs clearance procedures for exporters of textiles and garments during the post-quota regime. However, procedures for clearance of export goods have been simplified in general in the recent past, and are equally applicable to the exporters of garments and textiles in the post-quota regime.

(c) No such measures are being proposed at present. However, the exporters of textiles and garments are eligible to avail of the benefits of existing incentives such as duty drawback, DEPB, DEEC, etc. Government has also provided for infrastructure facilities, simplified investment norms, duty concessions on certain inputs meant for exports, eco-testing laboratories, etc. to textile and garment exporters.

Memorandum for rise in G.P.F. interest rate

4233. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum dated 3rd February, 2005 from All India State Government Employees Federation demanding rise in G.P.F. interest rate; and

(b) if so, response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rate of interest on GPF for 2004-05 was fixed at 8 per cent taking into account entire gamut of issues. In respect of the rate of interest on Employees' Provident Fund accumulations for 2004-05, the Central Board of Trustees of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation have not recommended the final rate of interest to the Government.

Status of NPAs of Nationalised Banks

4234. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the position of NPAs in different Nationalised Banks as on 31st March, 2004, bank-wise; and